United Nations A/C.2/65/L.25

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
3 November 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20 (a)
Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and Tajikistan: draft resolution

International Year of Water Diplomacy

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, its resolution 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed that the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, commenced on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, its resolution 59/228 of 22 December 2004, its resolution 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it proclaimed 2008 as the International Year of Sanitation, and its resolution 64/198 of 21 December 2009 entitled "Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life', 2005-2015",

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in which the Council recognized the contribution that the celebration of international years could make to the furtherance of international cooperation and understanding,

Recalling further its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years,

Recalling the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals[1] and commitments made therein,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, indispensable for human health and well-being, central to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and is a powerful incentive for cooperation and dialogue,

[1] Resolution 65/1.

Please recycle

Recalling the provisions of Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session,[3] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[4] and the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session[5] relating to freshwater,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6] and determined to achieve the goal to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, and the goals set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation as well as to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries,

Welcoming the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth, thirteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions on the issues of water and sanitation, the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the interactive dialogue of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the International Decade for Action convened on 22 March 2010, World Water Day, and the Dushanbe Declaration on Water[7] adopted at the High-level International Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015,

Taking note of the holding of the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey, from 16 to 22 March 2009, and noting that the Sixth World Water Forum will be held in Marseille, France, in March 2012,

Concerned by the slow and uneven progress in achieving the goals to halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, while global climate change and other challenges seriously affect water quantity and quality,

Recognizing the crucial role the Year could play, inter alia, in strengthening dialogue and cooperation, within existing mechanisms and modalities of water diplomacy, and its important contribution to the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Decides* to declare 2012 the International Year of Water Diplomacy;

---

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the Worlds Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[6] See resolution 55/2.

[7] See A/65/88, annex.

[8] A/65/297.

3. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to serve as the focal point for the Year and to develop necessary proposals on activities at all levels, including sources of funding;

4. *Encourages* all Member States, the Secretariat, organizations of the United Nations system, through their coordination mechanism, and major groups to continue their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[6] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[4] to elaborate and implement national, subregional and regional strategies and action plans on conservation and sustainable use of water resources and integrated water resources management, and to assist in this regard developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;

5. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene an interactive dialogue of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2011, World Water Day, on promoting water diplomacy and cooperation;

6. *Calls upon* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors and stakeholders to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of freshwater and to actively promote actions at the local, national, regional and international levels, with a focus on strengthening mutual understanding and cooperation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the activities planned for the Year by the Secretary-General and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system.